

### REMARKS

As indicated in our November 24, 2004 response, it is Applicants' belief that Lai is not an appropriate prior art reference under 35 USC 102 since the filing date of Lai (May 9, 2001) is after the priority date (February 28, 2001) of the instant application. Similarly, Gotoh is not an appropriate reference since it's filing date (February 26, 2002) is after the priority date (February 28, 2001) of the instant application. Applicants are providing herewith a copy of the verified English translation of the application. Applicants respectfully request that the rejection be withdrawn.

In the event the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to Deposit Account No. 03-1952 referencing attorney docket no. 449122024500. However, the Commissioner is not authorized to charge the cost of the issue fee to the Deposit Account.

Dated: December 27, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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Attachment